

This is
Your
M.F.A.C.

**MANITOBA FEDERATION OF AGRICULTURE
AND CO-OPERATION**

610 Royal Bank Building

-

Winnipeg, Man.

Introduction

The Manitoba Federation of Agriculture and Co-operation is a Federation of the co-operatives in Manitoba which embraces an unduplicated membership in excess of 45,000 farm families. The Federation is the organization through which farm families may participate in establishing policy for organized agriculture. Their membership is paid by Provincial Co-operatives on their behalf and is based on volume of business, membership, and ability to pay. The main function of the Federation is to represent the views of organized agriculture and the co-operative movement in Manitoba, to governments and other public agencies and authorities. It also carries on a broad program of educational and informational services through the media of meetings, mail, press and radio. This program is designed to interpret the views of agriculture to the general public, to promote the progress of the rural community and to raise the standard of farm life. It is democratically organized and represents farmers in all circumstances and in all sections of the province. The Federation is also the provincial section of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture and the Co-operative Union of Canada which in turn are members of the International Federation of Agricultural Producers and the International Co-operative Alliance respectively.

Why I Should be a Member of the M. F. A. C.

- Because your active support is needed if we farmers are to be really united and in a position to speak and act quickly and effectively in our own interests.
- To help maintain the co-operative movement as a method of business and way of life, whereby service and not profit is the motivating force.
- Business is organized into corporations, trusts and chambers of commerce. Doctors, lawyers, teachers—all have their professional organizations to protect their interests. Workers organized labor unions to raise their wages. Farmers must be completely organized too, if we are to have bargaining power on an equal plane.

What Has the M.F.A.C. Done?

- The M.F.A.C. has spoken and continues to speak for the Manitoba farmer whenever he needs an organized voice.
- The Federation continues to carry on co-operative educational and youth work and provides a social and recreational life for its members.
- The Federation maintains close touch with legislative developments and from time to time makes representations to the Provincial Government on matters concerning Manitoba farmers. Once a year a comprehensive brief is made to the Provincial Cabinet covering questions of concern to agriculture and the co-operative movement. The same activity is carried on in Ottawa by the two national affiliates.
- The M.F.A.C. advocated and obtained complementary legislation to Federal Bill No. 135 making it possible to have the handling of coarse grains placed under the Canadian Wheat Board.
- The establishment of the sub-division of "Cooperative Services" in the Manitoba Department of Agriculture is a result of M.F.A.C. activity.
- The Act regulating the manufacture and use of margarine (re color, packaging, etc.) in public eating places is in line with M.F.A.C. representations in this respect.
- The M.F.A.C. carried out a vigorous campaign to organize public resistance to the co-operative taxation proposals in the Federal Government budget of 1946. The M.F.A.C., united with similar organizations across Canada, succeeded in building up sufficient pressure so that the original tax proposals were modified considerably. The result is that only the provision to apply a tax on 3% of the capital employed by co-operatives remains of the original discriminatory tax proposals.
- The M.F.A.C. worked with officials of the taxation branch of the Manitoba Government in having a more acceptable gas tax rebate form issued.
- The Federation played a leading part in the establishment of the Co-operative Life Insurance Company in Manitoba.
- The M.F.A.C. joined with other provincial federations and the Canadian Federation of Agriculture in protesting and having removed the inventory and net worth statements from the 1947 T1 Prairie Farmers Income Tax form.

- The Federation has waged continuous opposition to further increases in freight rates and has striven to find a means whereby the freight rate structure, which discriminates against Western Canada, may be adjusted.

M.F.A.C. Policy


The M.F.A.C. advocates and works for the following measures designed to improve the rural community and promote the welfare of the agricultural industry:


- Continuation of the Canadian Wheat Board as the sole marketing agency for wheat, oats and barley.
- Payment, by the Government of Canada, of a very substantial amount per bushel, on the final settlement of the five year wheat pool ended July 31, 1950.
- Full support to the International Wheat Agreement and the extension of this principle to other export farm commodities.
- The Government of Canada to govern its future economic policy by a recognition of the need for the maintenance of a parity price system for agricultural products, so that the purchasing power of farmers may remain in balance with that of other groups in the Canadian economy.
- The more active and general use of the Agricultural Prices Support Act.
- The establishment of producer boards under existing provincial marketing legislation.
- Continued defense of agriculture against freight rate increases and co-operation with Prairie Provincial Governments and other western farm organizations in an effort to win a fair deal in freight rates for Western Canada.
- A more liberal and flexible system of payment under the Prairie Farm Assistance Act.
- The establishment of a contributory crop insurance plan administered jointly by the Federal and Provincial Governments.
- Removal of the embargo on the shipment of live hogs to the U.S.A.
- Continued regulation of the manufacture and use of margarine in Manitoba.
- The establishment of a national soil conservation policy.

- 537 105
- Whole-hearted support to the Manitoba Health Services Act with its provisions for preventive medicine, local health units, diagnostic centres, hospital facilities and medical services.
 - Equality of educational opportunity for rural Manitoba youth.
 - Full support of the plan for the establishment of larger school areas of administration throughout Manitoba.
 - The teaching of an appreciation of soils in elementary school.
 - Permanent reinstatement of the 1949 Manitoba Timber Permit Regulations.
 - The province-wide observation of standard time.
 - Full use of the Port of Churchill and the Hudson Bay Route.
 - Continuance of the services of the National Film Board.
 - Removal of the 3% tax on capital employed in co-operative enterprises.
 - Continued expansion of a rural youth program including folk schools, summer camps, public speaking contests designed to encourage and develop leadership ability among Manitoba young people.

Your Board of Directors strive to promote the social, economic, physical and cultural well-being of the people of Manitoba. Your continued direction and active support is needed, if your M.F.A.C. is to reach this objective.

In our common purpose let's remember—Rural people can have better homes, hospitals and schools. We can have a rich and abundant future; but it can be achieved only by continued organization on our own behalf. The task of building a strong and healthy world society is a community job. It can be done by farm families working with their neighbors. By employing a principle proven by one-half century of struggle on the prairies, in the school houses and in the world's parliament—the principle of mutual aid and brotherhood.





Do You Know . . .

- That the M.F.A.C. is the direct descendant of the Manitoba Grain Growers Association which was organized in 1903 when farmers first sought to solve, collectively, the many farm problems of the day?
- That present day farmer-owned and controlled Manitoba co-operatives, with a total annual volume of business of over \$114 million and a total annual net savings to members of over \$2½ million, are the direct result of rural people working through general farm organizations such as the M.F.A.C. and its predecessors?
- That the authoritative and respected voice of Manitoba rural people is heard in many local, provincial, national and international circles through the M.F.A.C.?

